

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL REACTION TO YOUR UNGA SPEECH

FROM LAISE

1. YOUR APRIL 15 ADDRESS TO THE UN HAS DRAWN GENERAL APPLAUS FROM A SCORE OF EDITORS, AND SPECIFIC PRAISE FOR SOME OF THE ISSUES RAISED. "MR. KISSINGER'S SIX-POINT PROGRAM," SAID THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL, "OFFERED AN INTELLIGENT ALTERNATIVE TO THE OMINOUS RUMBLINGS OF SELFISH AND VINDICTIVE POLICIES THAT FORM THE BACKGROUND AT THE SPECIAL UN SESSION." THE LOS ANGELES TIMES PRAISED YOUR BRILLIANT ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL INTERDEPENDENCE," AND THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR SAID YOU HAD GIVEN THE UN SPECIAL SESSION A "MORAL BOOST" BY VOICING THE "HIGHEST TRADITION OF AMERICAN CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLES OF THE WHOLE WORLD."

2. INTERDEPENDENCE. OVER HALF OF THE PAPERS SPECIFICALLY COMPLIMENTED YOUR EMPHASIS ON GLOBAL INTERDEPENDENCE. MOST UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THESE PAPERS AGREED WITH NEWSDAY THAT THE ARAB OIL BOY-

COTT SHOULD HAVE CONVINCED THE U.S. THAT WE CAN'T GO IT ALONE ANY LONGER, THAT THE US IS DEPENDENT ON A WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM THAT FACILITATES THE FREE TRANSFER OF GOODS AND MONEY BETWEEN NATIONS." SEVERAL PAPERS WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT A WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE AMONG THE WORLD'S NATIONS, RATHER THAN TO STRIKE OUT FOR TEMPORARY ADVANTAGE, "ISN'T LIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED VERY SOON" (CHICAGO NEWS.)

THE MILWAUKEE JOURNAL, PRAISING YOUR ANALYSIS, ADVISED THAT THE KEY TO WORLD ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONCEPT OF INTERDEPENDENCE "LIES IN U.S. ACTION," ADDING, "IF THE WORLD'S RICHEST COUNTRY LOOKS ONLY TO ITSELF, THERE IS LITTLE HOPE THAT OTHERS WILL ACT DIFFERENTLY."

3. THESE SAME EDITORS ALSO APPROVED YOUR PLEDGE THAT THE U.S. WILL MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND PHYSICAL ASSISTANCE TO POORER COUNTRIES (BOSTON GLOBE), INCLUDING YOUR COMMITMENTS REGARDING FERTILIZER AND FOOD RESOURCES. THE NEW YORK POST, COMPARING YOUR REMARKS CONCERNING U.S. PLANS TO AID DEVELOPING NATIONS IN RAISING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WITH SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE BUTZ'S ASSERTION THAT "AMERICA WILL NO LONGER BE THE WAREHOUSE FOR THE WORLD," FOUND YOUR DECLARATION ONE OF "HUMANITY AND VISION" -- UNTIED TO A QUICK PROFIT-MAKING OPERATION.

4. CARTELS. SOME PAPERS CONFINED THEIR DISCUSSIONS OF YOUR SPEECH ON INTERDEPENDENCE TO YOUR WARNING AGAINST CARTELS OF PRODUCERS OF SCARCE RAW MATERIALS (E.G. N.Y. NEWS, PROV. JOURNAL). ACCORDING TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, THE OIL COUNTRIES THEMSELVES "HAVE SHOWN WHAT CAN HAPPEN WHEN A CARTEL OF PRODUCERS HAS THE POWER TO DECLARE EMBARGOES AND FIX PRICES ON MATERIAL ESSENTIAL TO INDUSTRY;" AND THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR ADDED THAT IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT IT TOOK A MONSTROUS PRICE INCREASE BY AN INTERNATIONAL OIL CARTEL TO REAWAKEN WASHINGTON'S INTEREST IN GLOBAL THINKING." AS TO THE OUTCOME, THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER FEARED THAT YOUR "PLEA FOR COOPERATION, ALTHOUGH CONCILIATORY, MAY NOT WIN OVER THE MOST MILITANT THIRD WORLD NATIONS."

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5. CONGRESSIONAL CHALLENGE. YOUR MOST IMPORTANT AUDIENCE WAS NOT THE RESOURCE-OWING NATIONS OF THE WORLD, BUT RATHER THE U. S. CONGRESS (BOSTON GLOBE). YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE GOALS, SAID THE LOS ANGELES TIMES, ARE CHALLENGED BY A CONGRESS WHICH "FAILS TO GRASP HIS MESSAGE THAT IN THIS WORLD AT THIS TIME THERE IS NO WAY TO SURVIVE AND PROSPER WITH THE OLD ALTERNATIVES OF CONFRONTATION, PROTECTIONISM, AND INSULARITY."

6. ANOTHER OBSTACLE TO ACCEPTANCE OF YOUR PROPOSALS WAS SEEN IN THE FACT THAT "THE U.S., AS THE WORLD'S RICHEST COUNTRY, IS SUSPECT IN THE EYES OF THE POORER PEOPLES" (BALTIMORE SUN). THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER FORESAW INEVITAB STALLING AT THE UN "TALK-SHOP", BUT THE NEW YORK TIMES CHARACTERIZED YOUR SPEECH AS A "CHALLENGE TO MANKIND THAT THE NATIONS WHOSE REPRESENTATIVES ARE ASSEMBLED AT THE UN WOULD BE WISE TO ACCEPT IN A VIGOROUS NEW EFFORT TO

SUBSTITUTE THE CONCEPT OF WORLD COMMUNITY FOR NATIONAL EGOISM."

7. UN DECLARATION. SEVERAL PAPERS WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE SPECIAL UN SESSION "LARGELY DISREGARDED THE ELOQUENT PLEA OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE" (N.Y. TIMES) AND ADOPTED A FINAL DECLARATION CARRIED BY THE "LDC STEAMROLLER" (N.Y. JOURNAL OF COMMERCE). COMMENTING EDITORS AGREED THAT THE U. S. PROPOSAL FOR A \$4 BILLION AID FUND WAS IMPRESSIVE, OFFERING A SPEEDIER, MORE SPECIFIC AND MORE PRACTICAL RESPONSE TO THE PLIGHT OF ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED COUNTRIES. THESE PAPERS LAMENTED THAT THE U.S. PLAN WAS INTRODUCED TOO LATE TO MERIT CONSIDERATION.
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